

2095 Sloan Street  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55117-2028  
August 3, 1999

5008 '99 AUG 11 P2:22

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Sir:

I wish to comment on the forced molting of hens and I state these 3 (three) docket numbers: 98N-1230; 96P-0418; 97P-0197.

The Food and Drug Administration has the jurisdiction and the power to ban certain farm practices, such as forced molting; practices which can injure human health. We petition our agency to prohibit the practice of forced molting because forced molting has been scientifically shown to promote disease by destroying the starving hens' immune system. The time is long since past when FDA fulfilled its obligation and mandate to protect the food supply by simply requiring warning labels on egg cartons and regulating egg storage refrigeration temperatures. We request that FDA ban the forced molting of laying hens because forced molting is the primary cause of infectious diseases in hens, eggs, and the consumers of eggs.

We believe that cruelty and the contamination are linked.

Over a year ago, in April of 1998, FDA was petitioned to ban forced molting.

This petition should be granted *without further delay*.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

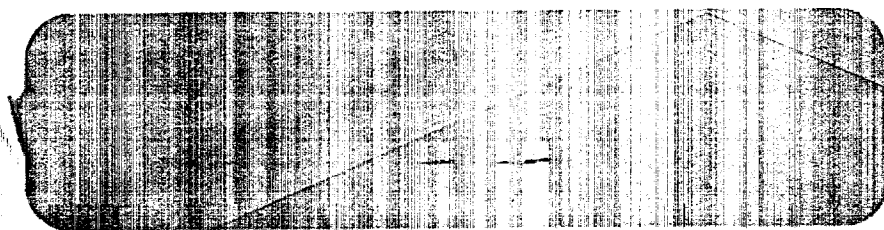
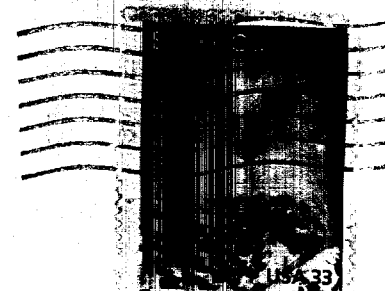
*Salvia S. Brown*

*Raymond W. Brown*

*96P-0418*

*C132*

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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number:

98N-1230/ C132

See File Number:

97P-0197/ C133

96P-0418/ C132